ACWI
Subcommittee on Ground Water (SOGW)

Introductory Remarks

Presentation by:
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Supported by Bill Cunningham, Co-Chair,
and Chris Reimer, Executive Secretary

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Welcome, and Thanks

- **Thanks to Everyone for Participating**
  - In Person and Long Distance
  - USA and Beyond
- **Special Thanks to:**
  - USGS HQ Staff
  - ACWI and NGWA
  - USEPA – Alternate Site

Why Are We Here?

- Dedication to GW
- My Story / Your Story
    - Personal History
    - Prof Orgs, Agencies, Companies
    - Volunteering
- Our Chance to Make a Difference

How to Make a Difference?

- ID and Benefit from "Drivers"
- Take Advantage of Past Efforts
- Reach Consensus and Focus
- Keep "Big Picture" in Mind
- Remember: Dedication to GW

Preaching to Choir

- Our Basic "GW Paradox":
  - GW is "Poor Cousin" to Surface Water
  - Yet, GW is Major Water Resource
- Result → Lack of "Primary GW Driver"
  - Listen to First 2 Presentations
  - Your Ideas & Recommendations
  - Look-Ahead: Congressional Visits

What is Driving Us?

- Personal Commitment
- Organizational Commitments
- Various Laws and Regulations
- Directives from ACWI
- Bottom Line → Backing from Many

How Do We Succeed?

- Learn and Benefit from:
  - Others' Successes
  - Our Past Attempts
  - Current Related Efforts
- Adopt & Rework
- Focus & Be Efficient
- Resolve Issues Quickly

Meetings Today and Tomorrow

- Emphasis on "Work"
- Overall Approach / Schedule:
    - Listen and Learn – Take Notes
    - Brainstorm, Focus, and Assign
    - Work → Produce Work-able Plans
    - Leave with Action Items – Everybody
- Products of Meeting:
    - → Action Items, Schedule, Deliverables

Primary Themes and Issues

- Quantity and Quality
- "Network of Networks"
- "Drivers"
- Prioritization (EU's "Risk-Based")
- Local / Regional / National
- Ambient / Impacted / Pumped
- And, Your "Favorites"

Key Definitions

- Aquifer (EU's "Water Body")
- Framework
- Network
- Again, Your "Favorites", Too

Basis of SOGW

- Terms of Reference (TOR)
- Work Plan (WP)
- Work Group (WG) Charges
- Embedded in These:
    - Deliverables
    - Schedule
    - Action Items / Responsibilities

"Purpose" in TOR

- …develop and encourage implementation of a nationwide, long-term ground-water quantity and quality monitoring framework…

- Added:

…and ecosystem requirements

"Scope" in TOR

…to assist in assessments of the quantity of U.S. ground-water reserves, as constrained by quality…

"Scope" in TOR (cont.)

...the SOGW will consider policies, programs, ...and use of ground water data at all levels of government and in the private sector...

"Applicability" in TOR

As resources are available, SOGW organizations...will implement recommendations and voluntarily use guidelines and procedures...

...Other organizations will be encouraged to implement the recommendations...

"Functions" in TOR

The SOGW will develop a national framework for ground-water monitoring design, collaboration, and data sharing with particular emphasis on changes in ground-water availability...

"Functions" in TOR (cont.)

- Evaluate and prioritize objectives
- Address collaboration
- Strive for consistency
- Recommend a monitoring design
- Recommend methods to archive and access data

Work Plan – the Basics

- Covers 12-month period
- Utilizes SOGW and 4 work groups
- Incorporates outreach, collaboration, and coordination
- Provides interim and final check points
- Identifies interim and end-period deliverables

Organization of SOGW

Subcommittee on Ground Water

Monitoring Inventory Work Group

Data Standards and Data Management Work Group

Field Practices Work Group

Monitoring Network Work Group

Work Group Charges

- WG Chairs / Co-Chairs Assigned
- Distributed to Each WG Member
- WG Meetings Held Already
- Today & Tomw – Work in WGs
- Unassigned? … Not for long !

Concerns / Issues Discussed with Full ACWI Group

- Aggressive schedule
- Timing & coordination issues
- Data discovery delays inherent

→ Why you volunteers are so important !

Guidance – ACWI Interaction

- Coordination with ACWI, NWQMC, etc.
  - NWQMC network design & Pilot projects
  - Progress reports
  - Review of ACWI work products
- Non-ACWI groups

Guidance – Lessons Learned

- Critical first steps
- Optimal work groups
- Work group coordination
- Schedule
- Pitfalls

Your Immediate Assignment

- Today's AM Presentations:
  - Take Notes for Today's PM Session
  - Good Ideas and "Lessons Learned"
- Lunchtime:
  - Confer on These Items
  - ID and Meet with WG Memberes